Quarterly Newsletter from the Systems and Research Division (Volume 1, Issue 3)



Message from the Director

The Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System (NCJIS) is a gateway for our criminal justice community to gain access to critical data. NCJIS is also the gateway for our criminal justice partners to submit information for state and federal data collection projects. Please take the time to initiate your agency's procedures for the Death in Custody and Use of Force data collection projects. (Page 2) Thank you to those agencies that have already began reporting.

I also encourage your agency to examine the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding grant. (Bottom-Right) Funds are available for entities that are preparing, preventing, or responding to the coronavirus pandemic.

Regards,

M.P. Fay-Mike Fargen

Director, Systems and Research Division

Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

Vendor Satisfaction Survey

In response to the increase in data collection projects and vendor market place volatility, we are launching the Vendor Satisfaction Survey in July. Being the first annual distribution of the survey, your feedback is doubly important as it will not only provide baseline measures for subsequent years, but also the opportunity to determine any additional information that should be collected. Results from the survey will be shared with LEAs and will help the Division in our goal to better educate LEAs during the record management selection process.

If you would like to participate in the Vendor Satisfaction Survey, please respond to the email invitation from Survey Monkey you will be receiving in a few weeks.

2019 Crime In Nebraska Results

The Nebraska Crime Commission released the agency's annual crime report for 2019, showing an overall decrease of 1.4% in the number of crimes reported to law enforcement agencies. 44,365 crimes were reported to Nebraska law enforcement agencies in 2019 compared to 44,986 in 2018. These numbers include only the offenses of Murder-Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny-Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson which serve as the basis for measuring crime statewide.

5,638 violent crimes (murder-manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) were reported in 2019, an increase of 4.4% in this category from 2018. There was an increase in the number of murders reported in 2019 (up 8.7%), but the number of forcible rapes reported decreased (down 3.3%). The categories of robbery (up 7.6%) and aggravated assault (up 6.5%) both saw an increase in 2019 as compared to 2018.

The complete 2019 report is available on the Crime Commission's website at ncc.nebraska.gov. Offense and arrest queries are also available at:

https://ncc.nebraska.gov/arrest-and-offense-data

Coronavirus Emerg. Supplemental Funding

Potential uses include hiring personnel, paying overtime, equipment and distributing resources to hard-hit areas. Funds may also be used to help correctional facilities cover costs related to COVID-19, including, but not limited to, sanitation, contagion prevention and measures designed to address the related medical needs of inmates, detainees and correctional personnel.

The CESF Grant application is located at: https://ncc.nebraska.gov/grant-apps

Please direct questions to: ncc.cesf@nebraska.gov

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Death in Custody & Use of Force Data Collection Update

In January of 2020 the Systems and Research Division began collecting reports of deaths in law enforcement custody in order to bring the state into compliance with a federal law called the Death in Custody Reporting Act.

During this time we also began collecting Use of Force incidents. All agencies are encouraged to enter any use of force incidents they have had throughout 2020 into the "Use of Force Reports" link on NCJIS. The Systems and Research Division is in the final stages of initiating a quarterly bulk data exchange of Nebraska LEA Use of Force incident and zero reports to the FBI. LEAs will not be required to log into LEEP to submit, instead they can use NCJIS. Agencies are encouraged to enter Zero reports for any months they do not have any use of force incidents. The absence of a report does not indicate an incident did not occur. Use of Force incidents include any of the following:

- 1. The death of a person due to law enforcement use of force.
- 2. The serious bodily injury of a person due to law enforcement use of force.
- 3. The discharge of a firearm by law enforcement at or in the direction of a person that did not otherwise result in death or serious bodily injury.

Given recent events, it is becoming increasingly more likely that the Systems and Research Division will report out on both deaths in custody and uses of force reporting compliance. Fortunately, we already have these programs initiated. We've received some Use of Force reports as well, but it's difficult to determine compliance as these events are often not reported in the media.

To summarize the reporting structure. DICRA Reports will be due in July for the April through June reporting period. Please take some time and submit your DICRA and Use of Force reports, including zero reports, in NCJIS. As a reminder, you can submit a death in custody or a serious use of force at any time. Feel free to report older Uses of Force or zero reports that may have been missed. DICRA zero reports are due on a quarterly basis. Use of Force zero reports are due monthly.

Total DICRA Reports

	2019		2020	
Report Type	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Incident Report		5	15	4
Zero Report	1	110	80	

DICRA Percentage of Population Covered

20	2020	
Q3	Q4	Q1
663 0.03%	1,492,006 77.13%	1,343,834 69.47%

Total Use of Force Reports

	2020				
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Incident Report	1	1		1	
Zero Report	90	61	61	39	31

Use of Force Percentage Population Covered

2020	Jan	1,234,379 63.81%
	Feb	999,245 51.66%
	Mar	1,030,213 53.26%
	Apr	795,395 41.12%
	May	762,332 39.41%